Calendar No. 911

98TH CONGRESS
2d Session

SENATE

REPORT
98–474

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACT AMENDMENTS

MAY 22 (legislative day, MAY 21), 1984.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. DURENBERGER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2703]

The Committee on Environment and Public Works, reports an original bill (S. 2703) to amend the Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970 to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1985, and for other purposes and recommends that the bill do pass.

GENERAL STATEMENT

The Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970 established the Office of Environmental Quality to be directed by the Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality. The function of the Office is to serve the Council in carrying out activities mandated by the Environmental Quality Improvement Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.

The purpose of this legislation is to authorize appropriations for the Office of Environmental Quality for fiscal year 1985. The authorization of $480,000 is consistent with the level requested by the President for the next fiscal year; and $1,000,000 is authorized to support the Council in a standing annual authorization under the National Environmental Policy Act.

A technical amendment is included in this legislation to establish an office management fund. This fund will repace the current consolidated working fund. The purpose of this amendment is to improve accountability in the management of study contracts and other environmental projects involving interagency funding.

HEARINGS

No hearings were conducted on this bill.

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ROLLCALL VOTES

Section 7(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate and the rules of the Committee on Environment and Public Works require that any rollcall votes taken during consideration of the bill be announced in this report. During the committee's consideration of this bill no rollcall votes were taken. The bill was ordered reported by voice vote.

EVALUATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT

Section 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate requires the committee to evaluate the regulatory impact of the reported bill. It is not anticipated that this bill will impose any significant new regulatory burden.

COST OF LEGISLATION

Section 403 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act requires each report to contain a statement of the cost of the reported bill prepared by the Congressional Budget Office. That statement follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, D.C., May 9, 1984.

Hon. ROBERT T. STAFFORD,
Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the attached cost estimate for a bill to amend the Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970 to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1985, and for other purposes.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them.

Sincerely,

ERIC HANUSHEK
(For Rudolph G. Penner, Director).

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE—COST ESTIMATE

MAY 9, 1984.

1. Bill number: Not yet assigned.

2. Bill title: A bill to amend the Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970 to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1985, and for other purposes.

3. Bill status: As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, May 8, 1984.

4. Bill purpose: The bill authorizes the appropriation of $480,000 to the Office of Environmental Quality and the Council on Environmental Quality for fiscal year 1985. The bill also establishes an Office of Environmental Quality Management Fund to receive advance payments from other agencies to finance study contracts or interagency environmental projects.

5. Estimated cost to the Federal Government:

	Millions
Authorization level:	
Fiscal year:	
1985	$480
1986	----
1987	----
1988	----
1989	----
Estimated outlays:	
Fiscal year:	
1985	456
1986	24
1987	----
1988	----
1989	----

The costs of this bill fall within budget function 800.

Basis of estimate: The estimate assumes that the amounts authorized will be appropriated. The estimate of annual outlays is based on historical spending patterns.

6. Estimated cost to State and local governments: None.

7. Estimate comparison: None.

8. Previous CBO estimate: On April 13, 1984, CBO prepared an estimate for H.R. 4585, a similar bill ordered reported by the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. The House bill authorizes $480,000 a year for 3 years, compared to the 1-year authorization in this bill.

9. Estimate prepared by: Mary Ann Curtin.

10. Estimate approved by: James L. Blum, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In the opinion of the committee, it is necessary to dispense with the requirement of section 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate in order to expedite the business of the Senate.

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Calendar No. 912

98TH CONGRESS
2d Session

SENATE

REPORT
98-475

TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT AMENDMENTS

MAY 22 (legislative day, MAY 21), 1984.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. DURENBERGER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2704]

The Committee on Environment and Public Works, reports an original bill (S. 2704), to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1985 and recommends that the bill do pass.

GENERAL STATEMENT

The Toxic Substances Control Act provides broad authority to identify and control risks to human health and the environment that arise from exposure to toxic chemical substances. It authorizes programs to assure that new chemicals are subjected to a risk assessment before they are manufactured for commercial purposes and to require testing of chemicals that may present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the enviroment.

The Act also requires reporting to the Environmental Protection Agency of information in the possession of chemical manufacturers and processors that indicates that a chemical substance may present a substantial risk. This information may be shared with other pollution control programs and with other Federal agencies to support their programs to regulate toxic pollutants. A broad range of regulatory actions also can be taken under the authority of the Toxic Substances Control Act, including responses to emerging toxic pollution problems that may not be addressed adequately by the authorities in other laws.

The pace of activity under the Toxic Substances Control Act is continuing to increase in all major program areas. The Agency projects an increase in the amount of testing of existing chemicals as recommended by the Interagency Testing Committee, the number of premanufacture notices for new chemicals to be processed and the number of existing chemicals requiring detailed risk assessment and regulatory action.

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In summary, toxic substances control activities to control risks to public health and the environment are increasing. Reporting mechanisms already in place will identify more potential problems from chemical exposure that must be assessed and regulated if necessary. Therefore, the Committee approved an authorization that is larger than that sought by the Administration in order to assure that adequate personnel funding are provided by these programs. The appropriations authorized by the Committee are consistent with the recommendation made to the Senate Budget Committee March 15, 1984.

SUMMARY OF THE BILL

The Committee recommends that the Toxic Substances Control Act be reauthorized for one year, through fiscal year 1985. It further recommends that $55,227,000 be authorized to be expended for carrying out the purposes of the Act as follows:

Sec. 28(d)	$1,000,000
Sec. 29	54,227,000
Total	55,227,000

Section 28 of the law authorizes grants to the States for "programs to prevent or eliminate unreasonable risk, within the State, to health or the environment which are associated with a chemical substance or mixture. * * *" In the past, these grants have been used successfully to support cooperative agreements with five States, under which, the States undertook responsibility for monitoring compliance with regulations concerning polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's). The funds authorized to be appropriated would allow continuation of the present cooperative agreements and an expansion of the program to include additional States.

The expenditures authorized by section 29 are needed to continue the development of program capability under the Toxic Substances Control Act and to meet an increasing workload due to increased reporting about potential unreasonable risk and increased testing of chemicals.

In light of these facts, the Committee determined that an authorization of $54,227,000 to support administration of the Act is appropriate. This authorization level is consistent with the original budget prepared by the Environmental Protection Agency.

HEARINGS

Three days of hearings on implementation of the Toxic Substances Control Act were held on July 27, July 29, and August 1, 1983. It is anticipated that additional hearings will be conducted later this year to consider additional changes which may be required to amend the Act.

ROLLCALL VOTES

Section 7(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate and the rules of the Committee on Environment and Public Works require

that any rollcall votes taken during consideration of this bill be announced in this report.

There were no rollcall votes taken, the bill was ordered reported by voice vote.

EVALUATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT

Section 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate requires the committee to evaluate the regulatory impact of the reported bill.

It is not anticipated that this bill will impose any significant new regulatory burden.

COST OF LEGISLATION

Section 403 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act requires each report to contain a statement of the cost of the reported bill prepared by the Congressional Budget Office. That statement follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, D.C., May 9, 1984.

Hon. ROBERT T. STAFFORD,
Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works, U.S. Senate, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the attached cost estimate for a bill to amend the Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970 to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1985, and for other purposes.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them.

Sincerely,

ERIC HANUSHEK
(For Rudolph G. Penner, Director).

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE—COST ESTIMATE

MAY 9, 1984.

1. Bill number: Not yet assigned.

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4. Bill purpose: The bill authorizes the appropriation of $480,000 to the Office of Environmental Quality and the Council on Environmental Quality for fiscal year 1985. The bill also establishes an Office of Environmental Quality Management Fund to receive advance payments from other agencies to finance study contracts or interagency environmental projects.

5. Estimated cost to the Federal Government:

	Millions
Authorization level:	
Fiscal year:	
1985	$480
1986	-----
1987	-----
1988	-----
1989	-----
Estimated outlays:	
Fiscal year:	
1985	456
1986	24
1987	-----
1988	-----
1989	-----

The costs of this bill fall within budget function 800.

Basis of estimate: The estimate assumes that the amounts authorized will be appropriated. The estimate of annual outlays is based on historical spending patterns.

6. Estimated cost to State and local governments: None.

7. Estimate comparison: None.

8. Previous CBO estimate: On April 13, 1984, CBO prepared an estimate for H.R. 4585, a similar bill ordered reported by the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. The House bill authorizes $480,000 a year for three years, compared to the one-year authorization in this bill.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In the opinion of the Committee, it is necessary to dispense with the requirement of section 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate in order to expedite the business of the Senate.

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